

Attorney Docket No. P67344US0
Application No. 09/926,630

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-16 (cancelled).

17 (previously presented): A composition obtainable by a process

in which tumor material is evaluated, comminuted and made into a purified cell suspension, which is then incubated with interferon-gamma and tocopherol acetate and frozen to form a tumor cell lysate and

in which monocytes are isolated from buffy coats or whole blood and subsequently induced to differentiate into dendritic cells by incubation with cytokines and converted to the non-adherent stage,

whereupon the tumor cell lysate is thawed and thawed lysate and cytokines are added to the non-adherent dendritic cells, followed by incubation of the admixture and harvesting of the mature dendritic cells.

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18 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 17, wherein IL-4 and GM-CSF are added for differentiation into immature dendritic cells in the preparation.

19 (previously presented): A medicament containing the composition according to claim 17 in combination with an acceptable carrier.

20 (currently amended): A method for preparing a medicament in which a suspension of tumor cells is prepared, which is then incubated with interferon-gamma and ~~tocopheral~~ tocopherol acetate, the tumor cells are killed, and monocytes are isolated from blood, their differentiation into dendritic cells is induced, and the thus obtained immature dendritic cells are incubated with the cell lysate of the killed tumor cells, the maturing of the dendritic cells is induced, and the mature dendritic cells are harvested as the medicament.

21 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, in which the monocytes are isolated from buffy coats, whole blood, leukaphereses, or separated stem cells.

22 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, in which the differentiation of the monocytes into immature dendritic cells is induced by cytokines, IL-4 and GM-CSF with or without interferon-gamma.

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23 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, in which the maturing from immature to immature dendritic cells is induced by prostaglandin E_2 and $TNF-\alpha$ and/or $IL-1\beta$ and $IL-6$ in addition to $IL-4$ and GM-CSF.

24 (currently amended): The method according to claim 20, in which the tumor cell suspension is prepared by isolating ~~and optionally evaluating~~ tumor material, which is then comminuted and made into a purified cell suspension.

Claims 25 and 26 (cancelled).

27 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, in which the tumor cells are killed by freezing.

28 (previously presented): The method according to claim 20, in which the mature dendritic cells are harvested when typical morphological characteristics of cell maturity are present as evaluated by microscopic check and/or by characterization of surface antigens using fluorescent antibodies.

29 (previously presented): A method of using the composition according to claim 17 for tumor therapy comprising administering the composition to a patient.

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30 (previously presented): The method of claim 29, wherein the tumor material is autologous.

Claim 31 (cancelled).

32 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the tumor cell suspension is prepared by isolating and evaluating tumor material, which is then comminuted and made into a purified cell suspension.